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THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1910.

Indiana Republicans Dodging.

Two Republican Congressional conventions have been held in Indiana. One of them, that of the Indianapolis district, dodged a platform of any sort by adjourning before its committee on resolutions could report. That was a cowardly thing to do. It will make or save no votes, but serve only to plague the candidate throughout the campaign. The other convention, which nominated Mr. Crumpacker, adopted a platform intended to meet the exigencies of an embarrassing political situation, but which, as the Indianapolis Star aptly observes, "will not satisfy the insurgents or the standpatters." Its strongest plank is its first one:

"We heartily indorse the administration of President Taft and commend his earnest endeavors along safe and sane lines to secure the faithful fulfillment of the party pledges."

This is an expression which standpatter and insurgent alike can at once and honestly indorse. It is truthful. No fair-minded man, Republican or Democrat, familiar with affairs, doubts for a moment President Taft's "earnest endeavors along safe and sane lines to secure the faithful fulfillment of the party pledges."

But Mr. Crumpacker's convention, in commending the Payne law as "a substantial step in the fulfillment of the pledge of the party," and coupling with it the assurance that he (Mr. Crumpacker) "stands for a greater reduction in the schedules along Republican lines," condemns the act as clearly as if indorsement had been withheld. As well have gone on record against the legislation. Faint praise given in a half-hearted, reluctant way will not reconcile dissatisfied voters or give them confidence in the further fulfillment of the party pledge.

The candidate in Indiana or elsewhere who meets the issue boldly, whether for or against the new tariff, will fare the better at the polls, no doubt. Fortunately for Mr. Crumpacker, his known views, supported by his record, are sufficient to relieve him of the handicap of an evasive, unsatisfactory platform.

A Singular Naval Episode.

While William C. Whitney was Secretary of the Navy the Dolphin was put into commission. This trim little craft was the first of the vessels of the navy built of steel, and the department was exceedingly proud of the acquisition. The craft was lying at the Brooklyn yards when the formal inspection was made. The various high officers of the navy were out in their brightest uniforms. The commandant was ready to receive his guests and the vessel was spick and span.

Secretary Whitney jauntily stepped aboard. In his hand he carried a silk umbrella. Up to that time umbrella rods had been made of wood, but the Secretary had an imported one, with a steel rod, probably the first ever brought into this country. He walked about the deck of the ship, and finally started down the companion way. The steps led down just inside the hull of the vessel, and the Secretary, being somewhat near-sighted, used his umbrella as a cane to guide his footsteps as he reached the bottom. The metallic ring of the steel rod against the ship's side interested him, and suddenly he struck a little harder than usual. Imagine the consternation when the umbrella rod pierced the hull of the vessel and the water from the ocean spouted up four or five feet through the hole made in the bottom of the ship.

The records in the Navy Department do not explain the accident, but the hole was soon plugged and a new sheet of steel placed over the defect. The theory is that the steel rod struck a rivet which was not thoroughly clinched or struck a blow-hole from a cinder, for at that time the rolling of steel plates was still in a formative process, and it is possible that a cinder was so rolled in the sheet that the blow of a steel umbrella pierced the side of the ship, making the hole sufficiently large to sink the vessel if it had not been closed.

The most interesting feature about this strange accident is that a newspaper correspondent who accompanied the party thought the vessel had been wrecked, and hastened to the telegraph office to file his story. The story reached his office, but before the presses were started the order came to kill it, and influence sufficient was brought to bear to keep it out of the papers. Whitney probably would not have grieved greatly had it become known, for the Dolphin was built during the term of his predecessor, William E. Chandler. The naval officers were the ones who were anxious to keep the story out of print, for it would have reflected on their inspection and acceptance of the vessel.

A Missouri man advertises for a wife with "a good, wholesome smile." The smile that won't come off, of course.

"Speaker Cannon's worst enemy would not say Cannon is a mollycoddle," says the Arkansas Gazette. No, indeed. "Uncle Joe" is usually pictured with horns, and done in red, at that.

Excessive Relief.

The extremity of Congressional liberality appears to be attained in a bill introduced in the Senate providing "that any citizen of the United States suffering from tuberculosis shall, upon application, be admitted for treatment to the tuberculosis hospitals now operated by the government in New Mexico." There are two such institutions in that Territory operated for the benefit of persons in the government service, one by the Marine Hospital branch and the other by the army. There is a similar tuberculosis hospital in Colorado operated by the naval surgeons, which seems to have escaped mention in the Senate bill. The measure proposes that patients admitted under its provisions shall receive the treatment upon payment of only the actual and necessary expenses of such treatment and subsistence. The author of this bill can have no proper appreciation of the extent of tubercular affliction. No one knows how many people in this country have the disease, but the medical officers of the army and navy estimate that there cannot be less than 1,000,000 people in various stages. At all events, the statistics show that 100,000 people die every year as a result of the disease. Considering that the expense of treatment and subsistence is purely nominal, it is imaginable that the demands upon the New Mexico institutions would far surpass any of the accommodations existing at those places.

The proposition is entirely in the interest of humanity, and if the idea could be carried out it would be one to which no objection should be raised; but the hospitals at Fort Stanton and Fort Bayard, in New Mexico, and at Las Animas, in Colorado, are now well filled with those for whom the hospitals were established and who are admitted to treatment by virtue of existing legislation. To increase the facilities, it would be necessary greatly to enlarge the institutions at presumably much expense. There is nothing in the bill to provide for this necessity, so that, in the end, the bill is only partially effective. It may be a step in the right direction, although those who are engaged in the laudable purpose of eradicating tuberculosis have come to the conclusion that very satisfactory results can be obtained at home by regulations which include living in the open air and adopting the proper diet. If the government is to take action of a practical sort for the benefit of tuberculosis patients, it would be better to encourage, at places nearer home than are the institutions in New Mexico, the individual surroundings and everyday habits of sanitation for individuals; and this can best be done by the promulgation of simpler rules with which nearly everybody may comply, certainly without the cost of going to a distant region, with its attendant separation from home ties and associations.

The authors of this particular Senate bill mean well, but their object is destined to be frustrated by their failure to take into consideration the comparatively limited facilities in New Mexico and the vast extent of the trouble they seek to relieve.

A Five-cent Tip.

An Englishman, after a long tour of America, gives it as his opinion that the greatest nuisance of the country to-day is the tipping system. He not only discusses it in an intelligent manner, but he points out some of the advantages of the English practice of giving "tuppence." He declares this to be the London tip proper on all occasions, and one that satisfies the taker and works no great hardship on the giver.

In a humorous manner, the foreigner tells of the practice. He declares that when he was brought to his father in the next room, the nurse who announced it was a boy was tipped. The church clerk who put tepid water in the baptismal font was tipped, and so was the cabby who drove the christening party home. At school and at college he tipped liberally, and on his wedding trip he tipped the guard to give himself and bride a compartment to themselves. He goes through life tipping, but never until he studied conditions in America did he see the evil of the system.

At his first dinner in New York he gave the waiter a nickel, and that servitor rolled it about for a moment, and then said: "Pardon me; I thought you had given me a quarter by mistake." Such is the attitude of the average servant in America. He declares the tip in this country makes a 15-cent shave a quarter and a 75-cent dinner a dollar. He sees in the nickel a useful coin, if the practice of giving it to servants in place of a larger coin be generally followed. The habit is spreading of firms and corporations giving to their employes a liberal sum at Christmas. If the hotels, eating houses, Pullman Company, and others who serve the public were to adopt this method of reward it might tend to abolish the tip.

"Dr. Cook is without funds," says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. That being the case, the doctor probably will find that his lost friends all will stay put.

"The Upper House of Congress is meeting regularly," says the Savannah News. Yes; whatever "the Upper House of Congress" is.

The Philadelphia North American discusses somewhat at length "the complexion of the next Congress." Perhaps a little "bloom of youth" would help its complexion some.

A New Jersey jury has decided that it is not a violation of the law to say d——. This may bring some consolation to the soul of "Uncle Joe," anyway.

It would be interesting to know whether Mr. Pinchot's return trip coupon reads: "Good for one passage from Elba to Washington."

What Mr. Roosevelt is going to do politically in the future seems to be a matter of worry to a large number of people, not including Mr. Roosevelt, however.

If the "allies" crowd "Uncle Joe" into that same corner again, they may finish him up next time. On the contrary—very much so, perhaps—they may not.

Mr. Norman E. Mack says he is only anxious to say "that which will tend to Democratic harmony and good will." Obviously, Mr. Mack should say nothing, therefore, and get back to Buffalo.

"'Jeff' Davis, of Arkansas, declares that history will do him full justice. 'Jeff' should cheer up," says the Manchester Union. How can he, if he believes it?

Just as the report that Mr. Roosevelt was about to visit Mount Aetna was being circulated most vigorously, the volcano ceased firing. When Mr. Roosevelt is the cause, the effect is always problematical.

Prof. "Jack" Johnson has been making political speeches. Prof. Jeffries should look to the articles of agreement and see if any provision is made for a thing of that kind.

"Berlin is said to be Roosevelt mad," notes a contemporary. Trying to make Bwana Tumbo feel at home, of course

A Georgia editor of the weekly persuasion has declined an election to the legislature. This country not only is getting powerful and mighty prosperous, but its dignity is increasing in proportion.

The London Geographical Society announces its confidence in Peary. This was a somewhat hazardous undertaking, inasmuch as it reverses "Little Joe" Brown.

Mr. Taft did well to decline a controversy with Chancellor Day, if for no other reason than that the chancellor would insist on doing all the talking.

CHAT OF THE FORUM.

An Awful Come-down.

From the Jackson Clarion-Ledger.

It is only a question of time before they will be writing it the g. o. p.

Pays in the Long Run.

From the Detroit Free Press.

In his African stories Col. Roosevelt makes from $20 to $40 every time he apologizes for missing a shot.

Piling It Up on Ballinger.

From the Detroit Journal.

We can't help feeling that, in some way, Secretary Ballinger is to blame for those avalanches out in Idaho.

The Speaker's Versatility.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Speaker Cannon is the only man we know of who can be both down and out and right on the job at the same time.

Getting All Twisted.

From the Rochester Union and Advertiser.

People got tired of asking "What is a Democrat?" long ago, and now they are asking "What is a Republican?" Where are we at politically, anyhow?

Wouldn't Have the Nerve.

From the Baltimore News.

If Attorney General Wickersham had held all the corporation jobs attributed to him by his political enemies, he wouldn't be able to look a trust-buster in the face.

A Hopeless Undertaking, We Fear.

From the Houston Post.

Lord, though it is yet more than seven months till the election, it is not too early to begin to fill Democratic heads with political discretion, and let the good work proceed without interruption.

Vindicates Mr. Burleson.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

We do not share at all in the criticism of Congressman Burleson, of Texas, for introducing the resolution to declare the Speakership vacant after the recent fight against Mr. Cannon in the House at Washington. What he did was really the only logical thing to do. The fact that the other Democrats did not agree with him, although they all voted with him, does not alter the case. He did the right thing, the logical thing, and he can afford to wait for his vindication which is sure to come.

The Real Battle to Come.

From the Kansas City Star.

Senator La Follette is right. The progressive victory in the House was only one of a series of skirmishes that must precede the big battle in November for the control of the House. The victory over Cannon and Cannonism in the rules fight was a heartening victory, but it did not break down the system expressed by the terms Aldrichism and Cannonism. That system is still in control.

Even with parliamentary precedents making it in order to vacate the chair of the Speaker or to change the Rules Committee at any time, there is no assurance that even successive changes in the Speakership or in the committee would change the fixed order of things for the better. The successful skirmish in the House will have a salutary effect for the remainder of the present session, especially as many of the Cannon members are aware that they have incensed their constituents and must modify their attitude if they hope for re-election.

The only actual security the people have is in turning out the unfaithful and putting trustworthy men in their places. This fight is for just one thing—to restore representative government in Congress, to abolish government by the special interests, and the people will be much more concerned over this issue than over party "regularity."

The American Type.

From Leslie's Magazine.

Is there a distinctive American type? Scientists for years past have been quarreling over the question. Prof. Franz Boas, of Columbia University, holds that while there may not now be a type distinctively American, we are rapidly approaching a uniform fusion of the races that seek a home in this land of freedom. He has shown that the children of alien races born in this country show a very marked physical and mental change, and that the amalgamation of these races is producing a uniform type of offspring. Prof. Boas is known among scientific circles as an explorer, geographer, and anthropologist. He was born in 1858 in Westphalia and was educated abroad. In 1883 he explored Baffin Land. His work was highly successful. His services were sought by many well-known museums. He has done considerable for the Smithsonian Institution and was chief assistant of the department of anthropology in the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. In 1895 he was attached to Columbia University. He is a member of many noted scientific societies and author of several books.

WEATHER TERMS ILLUSTRATED.

Maiden with a powder puff
Dabbling here and there—
This reported weather-wise
Means, "Continued fair."

Hubby coming home at one,
Zigzag course a-wending—
Weather signal in this case
Would be, "Storm impending."

Baby climbing on a chair,
If she slips and falls,
It is not unlikely that
There'll be "Sudden squalls."

Girl and lover have a spat,
She flings down his flowers,
Lover, angry, grabs his hat
And rushes off—that's "Showers."

Man sees tailor on the street,
Seems a trifle nettled,
Crosses to the other side—
That suggests, "Unsettled."

—Boston Transcript.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

TWO VARITIES.

When busy bees o'er flower beds whizz,
We have good reason
To say that gentle springtime is
A real season.

But when each day a downpour has
Or else a drizzle,
We can but stamp the springtime as
A woeful fizzle.

Significant Activities.

"That young fellow seems to have made a hit at your house."

"Yes; I judge he has. Ma's investigating his family tree and pa's looking up his commercial standing."

Everything Up.

"Why doesn't your publication devote more space to the increased cost of food?" demanded the irate citizen.

"White paper is too high," explained the courteous editor.

A Bad Practice.

"I guess I won't loan that chap any more of my books."

"Why not?"

"He uses a cigar as a bookmark."

Soon Due.

And now the happy fans begin
To blithely smile.
The baseball season opens in
A little while.

The Difference.

"Peace has her victims no less renowned than war."

"But less profitable. Nobody ever hangs up gate money for a debate."

He Explains.

"Why do you stick to musical comedy? You could write a play."

"Musical comedy is safer. Jokes are common property, but they say unkind things if you happen to annex a few stray epigrams."

The Modern Idea.

"The ideal courtship is one in which friendship gradually ripens into love."

"And the ideal marriage?"

"Oh, then love gradually deripens into friendship."

Bureaucratic Suppression.

From the New York American.

It is remarkable and not creditable to the political sense of the American people that the recent government orders forbidding Federal employes from publicly criticising the work of their departments have passed with so little comment.

These orders constitute a political innovation, savoring of Old World bureaucratic ideas and scarcely congruous with the spirit of American political institutions.

It is, of course, necessary that subordinates in the departments should be in general agreement with their superiors. And any employe who puts himself in distinct antagonism to any important policy of his chief must inevitably run the risk of summary dismissal.

On the other hand, the public can ill afford to dispense with the advice and information of those who care enough for the service to take this risk.

It is always possible that reforms of great importance may be introduced into the public service by such means, and minor reforms and the discovery of better ways of doing little things have often come from the free public criticism of the public service by the employes of the public.

The system of bureaucratic suppression is excellent from the point of machine politics, party patronage, or the pretensions of arbitrary power.

Marathon Abominations.

From the New York Tribune.

The so-called "Marathon" road races were bad enough; profitless outgrowths of a pernicious and senseless craze. The "Marathon" contests in rinks and other buildings were still worse in every respect; grotesque travesties upon a distorted legend. But the superlative degree of senselessness is attained in the "Marathon dances" which have now sprung into vogue in various neighborhoods, with invariably mischievous and not infrequently disastrous and even fatal results.

The spectacle of a number of young women, lost to all sense of self-respect or self interest, publicly "dancing" with male companions hour after hour without pause in a contest of physical endurance, until they reel and fall in sheer collapse, is irredeemably revolting. When the almost inevitable consequences to the wretched participants are taken into account it assumes an even more detestable aspect. Yet it is witnessed and applauded by gaping throngs of brutes and fools, with the acquiescence of the powers that be.

There ought to be no difficulty and no delay in suppressing these exhibitions. Health boards and police should surely have power to stop public performances which are indisputably injurious to health and perilous to life. In addition to being unspeakably offensive to every instinct of decency.

Mileage for Congressmen.

From the Indianapolis News.

Representative Cox thinks that it is wrong for Senators and Representatives to be drawing mileage from the government at the present rate—20 cents a mile. He has introduced two bills, the effect of which would be to substitute a 5-cent rate for that now prevailing. Even this sum would, as Mr. Cox shows, more than pay the cost of the trips to and from Washington. The grant of mileage was never intended as a supplement to salaries. On the contrary it was meant simply to cover traveling expenses, which is about all it did in the early days. Now, when men can travel for 2 cents a mile, it is absurd and wrong to pay them 20 cents. In a letter to Mr. Kennedy, chairman of the mileage committee, asking for a hearing, Mr. Cox says:

Twenty cents a mile is excessive. Five cents a mile would more than cover all legitimate traveling expenses, including tickets, berths, and meals. A Congressman who travel 720 miles would be allowed under my bill $36 each way. A simple mathematical calculation will show that he can travel that distance, all expenses included, for less than $36.

We hope that Mr. Cox may be able to put an end to this mileage graft. But we are not sanguine.

Cause and Effect.

From the Kansas City Times.

"If Solomon was so wise, why did he marry 1,000 wives?"

"You've got it backwards. It was his wives that wised him up."

Personal Experience.

From Rire.

Teacher—Give me an example of a transparent object.

Boy—A keyhole.

Poker in Texas.

From the Houston Post.

"Can he play poker?"

"I guess so. Nobody seems to want to play with him."

CAPITOL GOSSIP

There have been over 40,000 bills introduced this Congress, and Senator Bailey truly says it is impossible for members of either branch to give all of them proper attention.

Frequently bills are taken from the calendar for consideration, and it is not until then that their provisions become known to the great majority of the legislators. During the session of the first Congress there were but 300 bills offered, and the Senator from Texas remarked that they were good bills and received thorough consideration by every member of that body.

* * * *

It is becoming a common occurrence for a noted insurgent to occupy the presiding officer's chair in both branches of Congress. Representative Norris, the boss insurgent of the House, occupied the Speaker's chair recently, and yesterday Senator Cummins, one of the leading insurgents of the Senate, presided over that body during the absence of the Vice President.

* * * *

Minority Leader Champ Clark has been roaming around Washington for many years, but he has some things to learn about customs Washingtonian. He boarded a car at Thomas Circle the other day. The car was one of the magnificent, luxurious cars that run through from Chevy Chase Lake to the corner of Fifteenth street and New York avenue. Mr. Clark paid his fare and seated himself comfortably, expecting to be carried to the Capitol direct. When the car arrived at the terminal of its route all the passengers left it but Mr. Clark. He remained seated. The conductor called out, "Change cars for the Avenue."

Mr. Clark woke up. "Is this as far as this car goes?" he asked. "Yes sir," answered the conductor. "I might have known such luxury couldn't last very long," blurted out the discomfited Champ, "give me a transfer."

* * * *

The clocks in the Senate don't gee, one of them running two minutes faster than the other. Of course the watchful Heyburn noticed the discrepancy and took advantage of it. When the hour of two arrives, the Vice President announces the unfinished business, which happens to be at the present time the railroad bill. At that hour there is never a quorum present, and a call of the Senate is ordered.

Enough of the Senators leave their luncheon, or after-luncheon cigars, to make the quorum, and when the sufficient number is announced, duck out of the chamber to finish their Havanas. Most of the solons, if not all, have made up their mind how they will cast their votes on the bill, and the luxurious couches of the cloak rooms have more attraction for them than a labored dissertation on the court of commerce and other items of the railroad bill.

* * * *

Senator George E. Chamberlain made his maiden speech in the Senate yesterday and acquitted himself well, notwithstanding the hazing he was subjected to. Senator Chamberlain has the unusual distinction of having been elected to the Senate as a Democrat by a Republican legislature. He was nominated by popular primaries, the members of the legislature having been previously pledged to support the choice of the primaries.

Senator Chamberlain is a rather small man, the same size as his colleague, Senator Bourne. Though small in stature, he has a large voice of unusual carrying capacity. He handled himself well, and though he was quizzed by a number of Senators at a time, he never got flustered.

* * * *

Rumors are flying thick and fast around the halls of Congress that Mr. Nagel, Secretary of Commerce and Labor, will be appointed to the vacancy on the Supreme bench. There has been considerable friction between Secretary Nagel and Senator Warner over the Federal appointments in Missouri. The elimination of the Secretary from the Cabinet, and likewise from the position of patronage dispenser will do much toward relieving the tensity of the situation.

The Amateur Gardner.

"A fellow can pick up some useful information from these seed catalogues."

"How now?"

"I have just discovered that succotash isn't a regular vegetable."

LUXURIOUS SLEEPING ROOMS.

Stephen Marchand, an American, Paid $190,000 for His Bed.

From London Answers.

Nowadays bedsteads are comparatively cheap, and $100 is considered a big price even for a rich man to spend on a couch whereon he may pass away in comfort his sleeping hours.

Occasionally, however, a millionaire will expend a few hundreds or thousands of pounds on the furnishing of his bed chamber, and he will not be satisfied unless the bedstead equals in splendor the bedsteads to be found in the world's royal palaces.

Mr. Stephen Marchand, an American of vast wealth, made up his mind to possess the most expensively litted bed chamber in the two hemispheres, and with that purpose in view, he spent not less than $190,000 on a bedstead alone. It was constructed of massive ebony, with elaborate carvings of solid ivory, and inlaid with gold filigree. At the head of the bedstead was a huge trophy cut from one solid piece of ivory. A special journey was taken to Africa to obtain a massive tusk for the purpose.

The bedstead was made by a large firm in Paris, and it occupied the finest artisans of France for over two years before it was completed. The hangings were of a special purple damask, costing nearly $25 a yard.

Mr. Marchand's bedchamber, which was of elliptical form and measured seventy-six feet by twenty-two feet, had its walls paneled with elaborately carved enrichments in the style of Louis XV, costing no less a sum than $64,000. The ceiling of this apartment was carved and decorated by Parisian artists, who were paid $19,350.

A rich London lady, a year or two ago, spent over $50,000 in furnishing her bedchamber. The carpet—a grand, handtied purple Axminster—cost $7,500.

The chairs and other furniture are of solid, carved ivory, with ebony and gold inlay. The toilet fittings are of Oriental alabaster, and cost some hundreds of pounds.

In the center of the room is a Cochin China table, inlaid with mother-of-pearl and worth $750. The bedstead is of brass, inlaid with fine pearls, and at the head is an artificial landscape of crystal, ivory, amber, pearls, and other stones.

The bedchambers in the palaces of Turkey are most magnificent, and the majority of the royal couches within them are worth small fortunes.

When the German Empress once visited the ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid a room was placed at her disposal which contained a bedstead constructed entirely of solid silver, artistically chased on many elegant designs. The curtains which surrounded it were of Oriental material and design, heavily embroidered with gold.

The Shah of Persia possesses one of the finest bed chambers in existence. Its suite of furniture is manufactured from ivory and inlaid with gold and precious stones. The curtains and curtain hangers are of the finest Brussels net, interwoven with silk.

The chef d'oeuvre of the whole apartment is the bedstead. It is composed entirely of crystal and delicately chased fountains on the sides eject jets of scented water at the will of the occupant. Above the bed is a huge chandelier, which, when lighted, looks like a mass of monster diamonds, all reflecting their brilliance at the same time.

In the French state collection of furniture there is a Masonic bedstead, surmounted by a large canopy. It is of extraordinary height and is ornamented with some of the most delicate carving it is possible for the hand of man to turn out. The French government has had several tempting offers for this beautiful couch, and they refused some time ago 15,000 guineas for it.

A Nonpartisan Speaker.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

One of the most interesting of the suggestions which have grown out of the revolt against what is loosely called "Cannonism" is that made in Washington the other day for the election of a parliamentary expert, not a member of the body, to preside over the deliberations of the National House of Representatives. The proposal is rather weighted by the fact that it originates with the "insurgents" of the House, and because it presumably could only be carried into effect by the same revolutionary methods as were invoked to eliminate the Speaker from membership in the Committee on Rules. Nevertheless, the plan of having a nonpartisan Speaker has a great deal to commend it to the common sense of the House and of the country, and if it could be coupled with the reorganization of the seating arrangements of the hall of the House there might be some hope of restoring the popular branch of the National Legislature to some appearance, at least, of a deliberative assembly.

TO-DAY IN HISTORY.

The Peace of Utrecht.—March 31.

The Peace of Utrecht, one of the most important treaties of the eighteenth century, which brough an end to the war of Spanish succession, was made on March 31, 1713, and the treaty as drawn was signed on April 13. This treaty was between France on one hand and England, Holland, Prussia, Savoy, and Portugal on the other. Several other treaties of less importance with reference to the same war were signed between this treaty and February 6, 1715.

England, in addition to its conquests from France and Spain, received by this treaty from both countries valuable trading privileges, which was the beginning of her marvelous commercial and colonial growth. The Peace of Utrecht effected the most important political rearrangement in Europe between the Peace of Westphalia and the Congress of Vienna. Though France received far more favorable terms than it might have been forced to accept, Europe was secured from its ambitions by the aggrandizement of its neighbors, Austria and Holland on the north, Prussia on the east, and Savoy on the southeast. With Utrecht the last two powers definitely entered upon the line of development which was to result in a united Germany and a united Italy in the nineteenth century.

The war of the Spanish succession was started in 1701. On the death of Charles II of Spain, Louis XIV of France claimed the throne of that country for his grandson, Philip V, while the Emperor of Germany supported the claim of his son, afterward the Emperor Charles VI. This led to the alliance of Holland and Germany against the French King, which was joined by William of Orange, Louis having recognized the son of James II, King of England. Almost from the start the French experienced a series of disastrous defeats, having to contend against the genius of the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene.

The victories of Malplaquet, Ramillies, and Blenheim quite broke the military power of France, and it was only by a change of ministry in England, brought about by the agency of Abigail Masham, Queen Anne's waiting woman, that Marlborough's apparition upon the heights of Montmartre was prevented.

The false glitter of Louis' reign, however, was effaced, and, as the phantasm of glory faded from before the eyes of the French people, they awoke to a sense of the incalculable evils of a reign which, having endured seventy-two years, left the country, after all its prodigious expenditure of blood and treasure, in debt to the then almost fabulous amount of $720,000,000.

Louis, once idolized, expired amid the scarcely suppressed murmurs and execrations of his subjects, bequeathing an inheritance of danger and difficulty to his successor which nothing but the wisest forethought, the most consummate prudence could hope to dissipate or overcome.

On March 31 the slave trade was abolished in England by the House of Commons (1806); the Boston port bill was signed by the King of England (1774), and the treaty of peace was effected between the United States and Japan (1854). It is the birthday of Andrew Lang, the English poet and essayist (1844); Henry II of France (1518); Frederick V of Denmark (1732); Rene Descartes, French philosopher (1596), and the day on which Charlotte Bronte died (1855) and Haydn (1732).

AT THE HOTELS.

"And why should Canada give in to the United States so far as tariff regulations are concerned?" asked Malcolm F. Weir, of Montreal, at the Arlington last night. "There is absolutely no reason for it and there is no necessity. Canada can raise all her own bread and food stuffs, and has lots to spare besides. Bread and food stuffs are the main thing in any country's products, and as long as she has enough of these necessities and to spare, she holds the whip hand. Canada's natural resources are growing and increasing every day, and the day is not far distant when Canada will supply the United States with the necessaries of life.

"The American government knew before negotiations were taken up that Canada was not obliged to submit to the demands of the United States, and yet officials of the American government tried to bluff Canada into submission. That's about the worst thing that could have happened, because the other countries have now become aware of the fact that bluff is a part of the game of Statecraft of the American State Department.

"We now know where we stand, and we know how to continue on our course. It almost looks as if the United States, or, rather the government, got frightened because Germany was preparing to enter Canadian markets if Uncle Sam had really meant what he said and demanded. Germany, ever ready to take advantages, has Canada overrun with commercial agents and travelers, taking orders, or, at least, prepared to do so should tariff negotiations with the United States have failed.

"Annexation to the United States? My dear sir, you had better discharge that idea from the mind of the American people. Canada will never be annexed to any country. If anything at all happens Canada will declare her independence and sovereignty under no other country's flag but her own. We have an empire which is growing more powerful every day, and we are drawing upon the citizenship of Uncle Sam to furnish us our best subjects. Thousands of American farmers emigrate into Canada every year, and 95 per cent of these newcomers renounce their American citizenship and become Canadian citizens. There is no reason why they should not do so. They come to Canada to make their living and grow rich, and that being the case, they have every right to become citizens of the country which gives them every opportunity."

James W. Porter, of Richmond, Va., who was seen at the Riggs, and who is engaged in the real estate business in Richmond, said that the prohibition sentiment in Virginia is diminishing and losing force, and that before many months a decided feeling would set in against the prohibition movement, and that a model license law would be adopted by the State legislature.

"The prohibition movement is a beautiful dream," said Mr. Porter, "but in reality it does not work out well. In the first place, prohibition does not prohibit, therefore failing in the very spirit for which the movement has been created. Then, prohibition is responsible for the loss of millions of dollars worth of revenue to the State. People will drink anyway, whether there is prohibition or not.

"A well-regulated saloon, where a man can drink his glass of beer or two in decency and not lose his good name, is what is needed in Virginia. The saloon business is just as legitimate as an eating house or any other business. Just as much harm can be done by overeating as by overindulging in intoxicating drinks. If physicians were consulted, they would surely have to admit that more sickness is brought about by injudicious eating than by intemperate drinking."

"So many excuses for divorces have been found that the comic papers find the subject one that yields much rich material," said M. B. Ferguson, a lawyer of Chicago, who is at the Riggs House.

"A South Dakota woman recently got a divorce from her husband because he refused to pay for a pair of corsets she had bought. One wife secured a separation from her husband because he persisted in stoning her neighbors' cats, thus making her unpopular in the community. Another woman who married a carpenter begged to be released from the union on account of the fear that if she ever had children they would inherit a tendency to pound and make a noise.

"Mrs. James Alexander, of New York State, carried off the honors as a most unique divorcee by issuing cards that read: 'Mrs. James Alexander requests the honor of your presence at the celebration of her divorce from Mr. James Alexander.' However, it remained for a Baltimore man to do the handsome thing by his dissatisfied wife. When he found one day that she was in love with another man he helped her secure her release from himself, settled the house and a fine income on her, and crowned his generosity by giving her away at the wedding.

"As a rule, the States have adopted the philosophical view that it is wiser not to interfere with marriage relations that are not pleasant, and so have been reluctant to enact divorce laws. Those that have been enacted vary much in what is considered justification, length of legal residence required, and terms of settlement. They range all the way from South Carolina, with no divorce law at all, to Tennessee's willingness to grant a divorce on any of twelve reasons. Length of residence required before a divorce can be obtained ranges from one year in a number of States to five years in Massachusetts. The causes range from grave crimes down to mere trivialities."

There is nothing but the best feelings and sentiments of friendship in Japan toward America, according to J. K. Yagachi, of Kobe, Japan, who was seen at the Arlington yesterday.

"It is very distressing to the Japanese people to read in American press dispatches that even prominent men are preaching from the lecture platform that war between the United States and Japan is inevitable. So far as we are concerned, Japan does not want war with America. America must answer for herself. All that Japan can do is to work hard to get rid of her debts. We have neither time nor the necessary money to embark in another war. The only war that we have entered upon is that of trying to capture new commercial fields for Japanese manufactures and products. Our population is growing very fast, and we must provide employment as well as bread for them. And that we can do by creating new markets for their products. And I am glad to say that we are fairly successful in our efforts.

"Japan sees in the United States her best friend, and we regard this war talk on the part of American citizens with deep disappointment and pain. We owe our civilization and progress to America, which country, through Perry, opened up our land to modern thoughts, and I am convinced that we would never go to war with a country which is really responsible for our existence."